

PISA 2018

The Department of Education and all the following teaching unions:

- NASUWT – National Association of Schoolmasters and Women Teachers
- UTU – Ulster Teachers' Union
- NEU (formerly ATL) – National Education Union
- INTO – Irish National Teachers' Organisation
- NAHT – National Association of Head Teachers

recognise the importance of our pupils taking part in these international studies and to ensure a representative sample of pupils would encourage schools to participate in the upcoming Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA 2018).

This worldwide research study assesses the performance of 15 year old pupils in reading, mathematics and science.

PISA is a system level study of pupil performance and the results are used to help determine future policy development and provide support for schools and pupils. PISA also includes a school principal questionnaire, providing a rich source of evidence to give a more rounded picture of those factors that have the greatest impact on attainment.

The National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) is administering PISA 2018 in Northern Ireland. PISA is a computer-based study, and NFER are working closely with C2K to support schools who have been selected to take part. Whilst there is some additional work for schools, the contractor NFER will do all that it can to minimise any burden for schools and offers full support throughout the process.

To see how Northern Ireland performed in 2015 visit: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/articles/programme-international-student-assessment-pisa>